

A close-up photograph of a dragonfly resting on a light-colored, textured rock surface. The dragonfly's body is yellowish-brown with red markings on its abdomen. Its wings are transparent with a fine, grid-like pattern. The background is a soft, out-of-focus landscape with warm, golden light.

# Habitat & Wildlife Protection & Restoration

Focus Area

# Habitat & Wildlife Protection & Restoration

A close-up photograph of a dragonfly resting on a light-colored, textured rock surface. The dragonfly's body is a mix of brown and yellow, with a prominent black stripe running down its abdomen. Its wings are transparent with a delicate, grid-like pattern of veins. The background is a soft, out-of-focus landscape with a mix of green and brown tones, suggesting a natural, outdoor setting.

Restoring Ottawa River Wetlands & Habitat in  
the Maumee AOC

(Partners for Clean Streams)

# Habitat & Wildlife Protection & Restoration

Wet Prairie Restoration in the Maumee AOC

Steven Woods

(The Nature Conservancy)



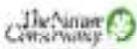
# Wet Prairie Restoration in the Maumee AOC



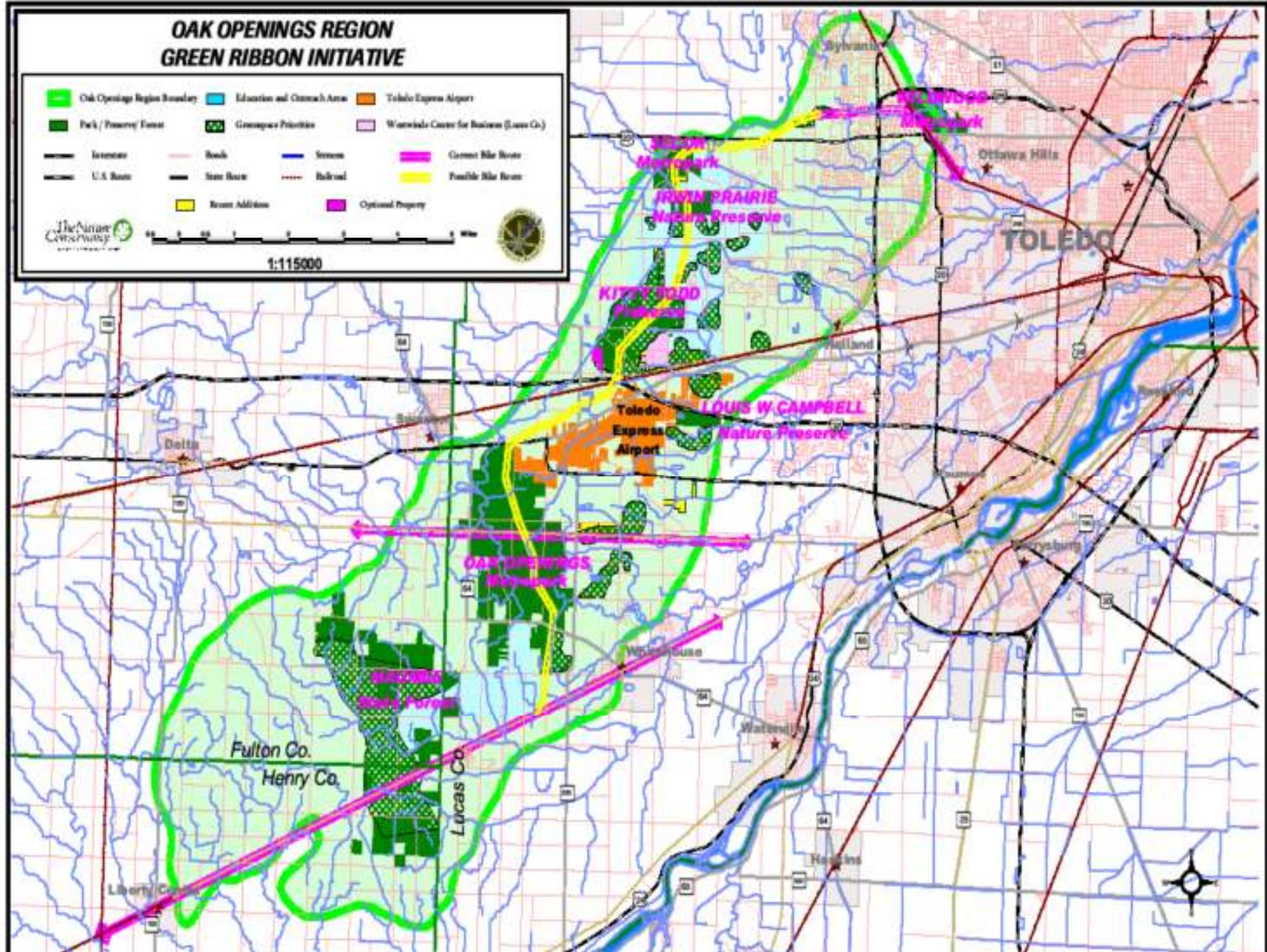
- **Funding: \$1.5 million**
- **Project Description:** Restore 600 acres
- of wetlands in the Oak Openings.
- Success will be evaluated by changes in groundwater and other biological indicators.
- **Project Manager :** Steve Woods – Oak Openings Project Manager
- **Partners:** Toledo Metroparks, ODNR – Division of Forestry and Natural Areas, Bowling Green State University

# OAK OPENINGS REGION GREEN RIBBON INITIATIVE

- |                              |                              |  |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|--|
| Oak Openings Region Boundary | Education and Outreach Areas | Toledo Express Airport                     |
| Park / Preserve / Forest     | Greenways Priorities         | Waterbirds Center for Business (Lucas Co.) |
| Interstate                   | Beach                        | Stream                                     |
| U.S. Route                   | State Route                  | Railroad                                   |
| Recent Additions             | Current Bike Route           | Possible Bike Route                        |
|                              | Optional Property            |  |



1:115000



# Future Direction

- Integrated collaborative regional approach to achieve common goals in conserving, connecting and restoring Oak Openings habitat
- Natural ecosystem processes (fire & hydrology) will be reestablished
- Better understanding of relationship between hydrological function of wetlands in relation to effects on groundwater resource supply in Maumee tributary (Swan Creek)

A close-up photograph of a dragonfly resting on a light-colored, textured rock surface. The dragonfly's body is yellowish-brown with red and white markings on its abdomen. Its wings are transparent with a fine, grid-like pattern. The background is a soft, out-of-focus light brown color.

# Habitat & Wildlife Protection & Restoration

Cuyahoga AOC Urban Riparian Habitat  
Restoration Phase 2

Stan Kosilesky

(Cuyahoga County Engineer's Office)

# Habitat & Wildlife Protection & Restoration

Lacustrine Refuge in Cuyahoga AOC

Claire Posius  
(Cuyahoga SWCD)



# Lacustrine Refuge in the Cuyahoga AOC Project



# Lacustrine Refuge in the Cuyahoga AOC Project

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## Project Goals

- Restore five acres of urban coastal wetlands and
- Restore 1500 feet of shoreline habitat in the Lower Euclid Creek to serve as a fish habitat refuge and nursery
- Applicable Beneficial Use Impairments:
  - *Loss of fish and wildlife habitat;*
  - *Degraded fish and wildlife populations; and*
  - *Degradation of benthos*

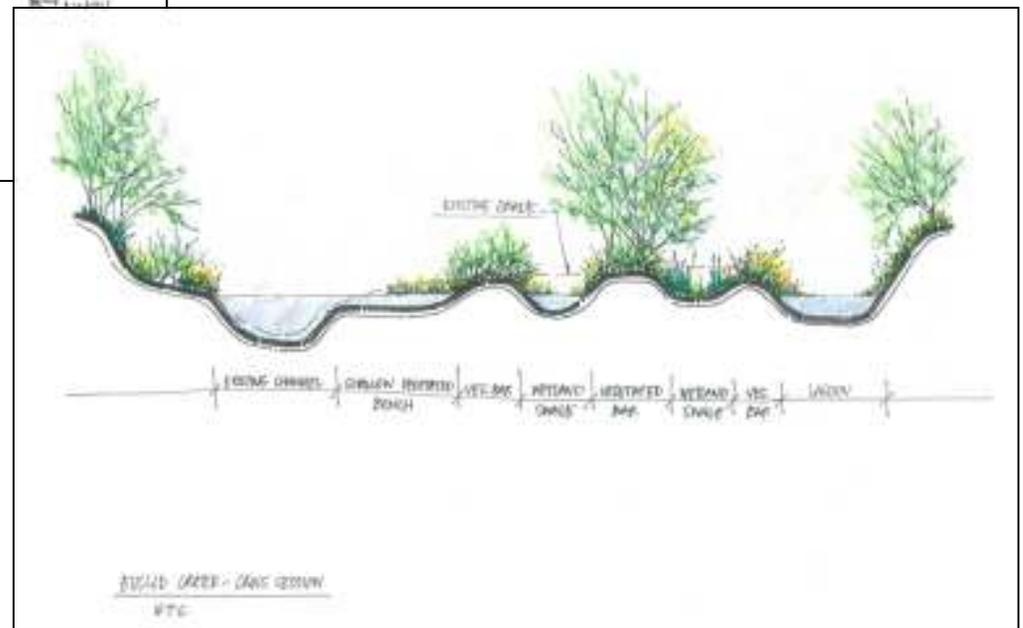
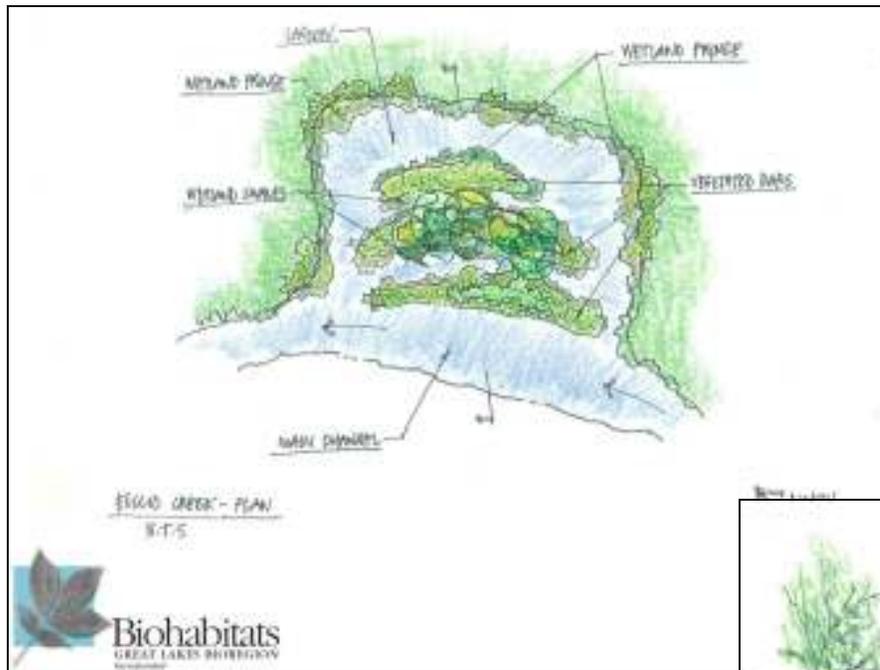
# Lacustrine Refuge in the Cuyahoga AOC Project

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## Project Partners

- Cuyahoga Soil & Water Conservation District
- Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR), Cleveland Lakefront State Parks
- City of Cleveland
- Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District;
- Ohio EPA
- Euclid Creek Watershed Council
- Cleveland Museum of Natural History & Midwest Biodiversity Institute
- Cuyahoga County – Cuyahoga RAP

# Lacustrine Refuge in the Cuyahoga AOC Project



Concept and Profile

# Habitat & Wildlife Protection & Restoration

Blueprints for Conservation of Diversity

Douglas Pearsall

(The Nature Conservancy)



# Habitat & Wildlife Protection & Restoration

A close-up photograph of a dragonfly resting on a light-colored, textured rock surface. The dragonfly's body is yellow and brown, with its wings spread out. The background is a soft, out-of-focus natural setting.

## Cuyahoga AOC Habitat & Fish Restoration Opportunities

Kevin Kayle

(Ohio Dept. of Natural Resources)

# Habitat & Wildlife Protection & Restoration

North Bass Island Restoration

Edward Frank

(Ohio Dept. of Natural Resources)





Division of Parks and Recreation

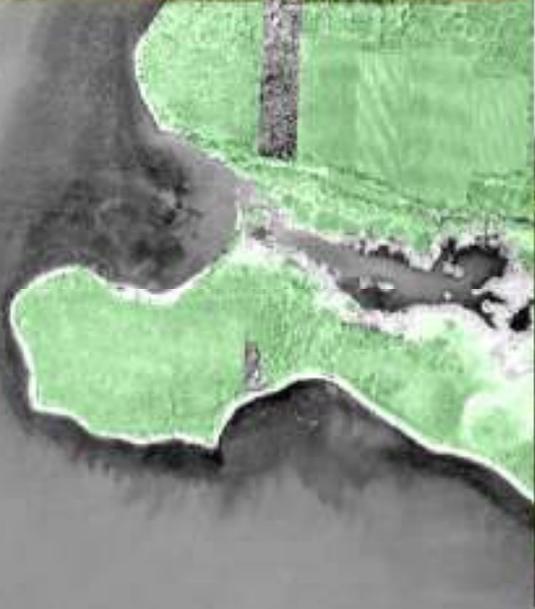
# North Bass Island

## North Bass Island

is part of a chain of natural islands located in Lake Erie. The island was originally mostly forested. Today the island is a series of mostly fields and small thickets.









Division of Parks and Recreation



The Division of Natural Areas and Preserves developed a Vegetation Survey to assess the existing vegetation on the island during the 2007 growing season. The Division of Natural Areas and Preserves described and mapped plant communities on the island, documented occurrences of rare and invasive plants and developed recommendations for forest restoration.



Division of Parks and Recreation

The proposed forest restoration areas would benefit many migrating bird species by improving habitat and restoring native tree species to the island. The forest restoration would also protect the island from wind and wave erosion.





**Division of Parks and Recreation**



**Goal:**

Implement responsible environmental practices that will reduce the state's contribution to climate change through reduced emissions and carbon sequestration strategies.

# Habitat & Wildlife Protection & Restoration

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Reforestation of Maumee Bay & Mary Jane  
Thurston State Parks

Edward Frank  
(Ohio Dept. of Natural Resources)



Division of Parks and Recreation

## Overall Project Description:

Both Maumee and MJT state parks were planted predominantly ***with Ash***. There has been a massive loss of Ash trees due to the EAB at both parks. Replacement trees will be planted - *500 @ Maumee and 159 trees at MJT*. The ODNR Forestry will provide expertise on all relevant aspects of this project.





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The project will also have an *education - outreach component*:

*After completion, the project will be spotlighted in a future issue of the Ohio State Parks magazine. A description of the project will also be posted on the Maumee Bay and Mary Jane Thurston State Park web pages @ [ohiodnr.com](http://ohiodnr.com). A fact sheet will be provided to park visitors and a public news release will be issued.*



Division of Parks and Recreation



Ohio State Parks applied to the USEPA for **\$168,000** for:

Reforestation of *Maumee Bay & Mary Jane Thurston State Parks*. Two parks combined into one project.

Application was made under the GLRI 'Focus Area': ***Habitat and Wildlife Protection and Restoration***

Late January 2010: Initial application submitted.



May 28<sup>th</sup> 2010: Received word that application was approved, along with invitation to submit a more detailed application and work plan.





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Late June 2010: Detailed application and work plan submitted to the USEPA.

- anticipate starting on project after execution of all agreements, and plan to complete project by end of calendar year 2012



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## ***Mary Jane Thurston State Park***

*Site is located along the designated Recreational Scenic River section of the Maumee River, approximately 30 miles upstream from Maumee Bay.*

The site conditions are basically ***riparian bottomland***. Selected replacement tree varieties - Sycamore, Red Maple, Tulip Tree, Thornless Honey Locust and Ohio Buckeye - are all hardy and tolerant of these conditions.

***All replacement trees will be 2 to 3 inch caliper - larger trees provide a more immediate impact than seedlings would***, and are less susceptible to vandalism, damage by wildlife and washout during high water events along the Maumee River. All new trees will be guaranteed for one year.



## Maumee Bay:

Division of Parks and Recreation

Located on the shores of Lake Erie. Site ***contains poorly drained soils with a very shallow depth to water table.*** - Replacement tree varieties - Sycamore, Red Maple and Swamp White Oak species – are all hardy & tolerant of these conditions.

***2-3 inch caliper trees will be planted here*** as well for impact and less susceptibility to vandalism and damage by wildlife. All new trees will be guaranteed for one year.



# Habitat & Wildlife Protection & Restoration

Ashtabula AOC Habitat Restoration

Gail Hesse  
(Ohio EPA)

